

# FBI Chief Puts Heat on Congress

By Drew Pearson

J. Edgar Hoover has been putting the heat on both houses of Congress to pass the FBI bill to reverse the Supreme Court in the Jencks case. He has almost made it a personal issue as between him and the highest court in the United States.

This is the second time Hoover has stepped out of his nonpolitical role as an efficient, quiet FBI chief; the previous time having been his public political appearance with Attorney General Brownell to smear ex-President Truman in the Harry Dexter White case.

Many Washington observers have wondered why Hoover took this sudden jump into the political arena on the side of Brownell. As explained by his close friends, here is the answer:

During the war, Hoover had placed agents with every American embassy abroad. They had done a good job. And after the war, Hoover wanted to build up a super-spy organization to operate all over the world.

He had already had some brushes with Gen. William Donovan's OSS, which during the war was in charge of international espionage. So, when President Truman decided to consolidate overseas operations and replace the OSS with the new Central Intelligence Agency, Hoover went to the White House to plead that CIA be put under him.

Mr. Truman considered this was too much police power for one man, and limited the FBI generally to the United States. He told Hoover he was doing a good job here at home and to stick to his domestic knitting.

This upset the FBI chief.

## Guarding President

On top of this, Hoover wanted to take over the Secret Service and its job of guarding the President. This was encouraged by Mr. Truman's close friend, Gen. Harry

Vaughan. Hoover had assigned a special agent to Vaughan's office and investigated certain people Vaughan wanted investigated, which in some cases was playing politics—Democratic politics.

Gen. Vaughan in turn did his best to persuade Mr. Truman to use the FBI instead of the Secret Service, and J. Edgar Hoover even got the House Appropriations Committee to earmark \$25,000 for the FBI to protect the President.

But Mr. Truman stopped this cold. He got on the telephone to Vice President Barkley and told him he wanted the FBI kept away from the job of protecting the President. At Mr. Truman's request, Barkley blocked the FBI appropriation.

After these two rebuffs, Hoover developed a cold hatred for Harry Truman. From that time on, he never set foot inside Mr. Truman's office.

Normally, Hoover is too shrewd to take sides in a political wrangle. But Hoover's friends say he was so bitter against Mr. Truman that he abandoned past practice and sat alongside Brownell as they both threw the book at Mr. Truman in the Harry Dexter White case.

## Washington Pipeline

When Cy Anderson of the railroad brotherhoods worked backstage for the jury trial amendment, he found that of the 51 Senators who voted for jury trials, 32 were friendly to labor, 19 unfriendly. On the other side and voting against the jury trial amendment and for a tough civil rights bill, were various Republican reactionaries and Dixie Democrats who traditionally voted against labor—a total of 29. As a labor man, he considered himself on the right side.

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